

Customer No.: 31561  
Docket No.: 10948-US-PA  
Application No.: 10/605,917

**AMENDMENT**

**To the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A portable computer equipped with an embedded controller (EC), the EC being equipped with a security mechanism operable with a method comprising steps of:

providing a key that provides a key signal to allow the EC to learn whether the portable computer is locked;

turning on the security mechanism while the EC receives the key signal indicating that the portable computer is locked;

determining only by the EC whether a hacking action is taking place; and

activating a security action in responding to the hacking action.

Claim 2. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 1, wherein the security mechanism prevents the portable computer from being turned on.

Claim 3. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 1, wherein the security mechanism prevents an input from a keyboard.

Claim 4. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 1, wherein the security mechanism prevents an input from a mouse.

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Claim 5. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 1, wherein the security mechanism prevents a basic input/output system (BIOS) data from being changed.

Claim 6. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 1, wherein the key is an internal device or an internal function of the portable computer.

Claim 7. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 1, wherein the key is an external device or an external function of the portable computer.

Claim 8. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 1, wherein the key signal is a binary signal.

Claim 9. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 1, wherein a related follow-up procedure of a security function takes place when a hacking action is detected by the security mechanism.

Claim 10. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 9, wherein the related follow-up procedure turns off the portable computer.

Claim 11. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 9, wherein the related follow-up procedure turns off a monitor device of the portable computer.

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Claim 12. (previously presented) The portable computer of claim 9, wherein the related follow-up procedure executes a security program.

Claim 13. (currently amended) An embedded controller (EC) equipped to a portable computer, the EC being operable with a security mechanism operable with a method comprising steps of:

providing a key that provides a key signal to allow the EC to learn whether the portable computer is locked;

turning on the security mechanism while the EC receives the key signal indicating that the portable computer is locked;

determining only by the EC whether a hacking action is ~~taking~~-takeing place; and  
activating a security action in responding to the hacking action.

Claim 14. (currently amended) A security mechanism for a portable computer, the security mechanism being equipped to an embedded controller that is equipped to a portable the security mechanism running a process comprising:

providing a key that provides a key signal to allow the EC to learn whether the portable computer is locked;

turning on the security mechanism while the EC receives the key signal indicating that the portable computer is locked;

determining only by the EC whether a hacking action is taking place; and  
activating a security action in responding to the hacking action.